

CSA Community Advisory Group

Plutonic Power

April 23, 2008

Minutes

Plutonic Power Powell River Office

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

7:00pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum noted

Safety Review

Fire exits and first aid attendants noted in case of emergency.

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct for Community Advisory Group was reviewed

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted

Welcome and introductions

Everyone was welcomed and participants introduced themselves.

Freda Project

Donald McInnes explained how projects evolve. Run of the river projects start with a desk top study using topography maps. From a hydrological perspective the study is looking for a large catchment area at a high elevation, a significant drop in elevation before things flatten out. The higher the drop, the more energy can be obtained from the water. A project that generates a large amount of electricity does not necessarily have a larger footprint. An example is Rutherford Creek, just north of Whistler. There is a run of the river hydro project that has been operational for a few years. It has a three metre diameter pipe, that goes down the hill for nine kilometres, dropping a little over 300 metres over that nine kilometres. It generates 50 megawatts. Compare this to PPC's East Toba River project. It has the same diameter pipe, but is 4.8 kilometres long, and drops 600 metres in elevation. Because of the significantly greater drop over a shorter distance in elevation this project generates 120 megawatts. Although the Toba project is half the size of the Rutherford project it generates almost 2.5 times the energy.

In 2003 Knight Piesold started looking at the Powell River area on Donald's behalf for run of the river opportunities. They did a desk top study looking for big changes in elevation. The topography on the map would help them choose rivers that had waterfalls because that screens out salmon bearing streams. This is an early screening method to try not to advance a project on a fish bearing creek. After two or three years of looking around in the Powell River area they made their first application to Land Water BC in April 2005 for their initial water license. At the time, before doing any real in the water hydrological studies, they were looking at the size of the drainage basin compared to one of the 500 or 600 drainage basins with Water Survey of Canada measuring equipment on them.

They saw a good catchment area with a good change in elevation at Freda. It looked like it could be a facility that could host a project with 20 megawatts of capacity. They put a stream gauge in the creek in September 2005 and they have been measuring water since then. This is important because they have to acquire debt to go ahead with a project and they have to understand their fuel. The way these projects get financed is an offer is made to BC Hydro entering into a contract with the utility that obligates the company to meet the contractual commitment to deliver a certain amount of electricity. Because BC Hydro is a AAA rated utility the company can now borrow money against the valuable contract. None of this can be accomplished unless the company knows it has the fuel from the water flow. To determine the flow of Freda Creek PPC put a gauge in the creek and they have been measuring ever since. When the project was initially conceived of they thought it would deliver 20 megawatts, that it would have an 8.8 kilometer long pipe dropping 320 metres, and most of the infrastructure require is already there a result of the existence of the forest industry in terms of access. They would have to build an access road a few hundred metres long from the existing logging road to the powerhouse. PPC showed the group a topographical map of the area including colour-coded lines depicting existing roads, the proposed access road, the corridor for the Toba/Montrose transmission line, the site of the proposed Freda Creek powerhouse, and where the proposed pipeline would be buried. Diverting a tributary over to the main part of Freda will increase the capacity to 36 megawatts.

Question: Does the tributary drain the Alpha Lake basin?

I don't know. We are not as familiar with the local names of things as you are, but when I say drain, I only mean that we will divert existing flow. We are not going to drain a lake. All we are going to do is divert water from the main Freda Creek and its tributary into a pipe. We are not heating, cooling, aerating, treating, or adding chemicals to the water. We are just diverting it through the pipe, putting it through a turbine, and putting it back.

Question: What percentage of the water?

It depends on the time of the year. May through July – not a lot. In January, if there is flow, a lot more. Typically we are in the low 40% range. Fisheries and Oceans have issued permits which have allowed developers to divert up to 97% of the flow from a particular watercourse in its lowest flow point of the year.

Question: I would like to know the percentage of flow that will be left in Freda Creek to support temperature and trout that are in there now?

We can't give you an answer today, not because we are trying to avoid giving you an answer, but because we haven't at this point done enough in stream studies to understand the trout and other fish population and we haven't even begun the permitting process.

Comment: Some of these lakes including Freda and Phalen are premier fishing

lakes around here.

Where is Phalen?

Comment: Above Freda.

So, anything we do should not be affecting Phalen Lake. Some of the fish may domicile to Freda Creek and some may move up to Phalen depending on rocks and other things, is that correct?

Comment: I would think so. There are fish in every creek that has a decent flow around here, including the Eldred.

Elisha said: I think it is important to remember, conceptually, our weir structure. As it is perceived right now Freda will include a fish ladder to the side of the weir.

Comment: But if there isn't enough water that won't help. We are talking about flow and temperature.

Yes, but because we cannot yet address flow I'm trying to address something else that is a component of fish to try to give you some piece of mind that we are examining the fish issue.

Donald stresses once again that the Freda project is just at a conceptual stage and that they have not yet begun the permitting process. Knight Piesold has been engaged by PPC since 2005 to measure the water flow and do the appropriate studies on different wildlife, fish, and flora values, so that they have a database of real tangible information behind them. PPC will then take that information and do the best they can with it to design a project. This could mean that the 36 megawatt project may have to be scaled back to 25 megawatts to sustain aquatic life, bugs, and salamanders. They have not yet done enough work to understand this at this point.

Elisha said that they have not yet started the official public consultation. CAG is the only group that PPC has talked to.

Comment: We spoke to you over a year ago about this. The project was on the table, then taken off the table, and now it's back on the table.

The project has been evolving, I don't know who said it was on or off. We are doing a study so that when we have enough information we can go to the public and the regulators with the concepts and say what do you think. This is a useful opportunity to hear from you about your concerns which will help the engineering team find the right way to do this with minimal impacts on the environment. We are still in the concepts stage. Freda Creek may never be a project. We walked away from a project near Gibson's where there was a fish ladder at the pulp mill that had apparently never worked. Given that information, we decided to spend some money on the development of that project. On the third year of the study, two fish showed up beyond the fish ladder. On the fourth

year there were a few more. After a few million dollars investment we walked away from that project.

Question: What is 30 megawatts worth per year at BC Hydro rates?

In round numbers, it is about one sixth the size of Toba and Montrose, so approximately \$10 million per year in revenue. The value of the electricity from a project on the coast is much higher vs a project in Revelstoke. A project in Revelstoke has no real flow after the spring run for the rest of the year. BC Hydro doesn't need more electricity in the spring because its dams are filling up in the spring. So a Revelstoke project is going to be worth far less on a unit basis than a project like Freda which is going to generate a lot more electricity as we move to our biggest load period in January. Freda has a strong flow in the fall and spring thaw comes a lot earlier to the coast. From a flow perspective this is one of the best projects in the province.

In round numbers citizens at home pay 6.6 cents/kilowatt. Industry pays approximately 3.5 cents per kilowatt. Commercial pays somewhere in between. In the last BC Hydro call for tender the utility paid 7.4 cents to developers. Donald said that what has given us the second lowest power rates in North America is the dams built in BC in the 1960s, 70s, and Revelstoke that was completed in 1984. We haven't built anything of size in over twenty years, so we've gone from a huge electrical surplus to a deficiency. Now we have to spend some money, whether it is BC Hydro or PPC, on building some new assets which will have to reflect the cost of borrowing money in the cost. Electricity rates will be going up whether PPC does it or BC Hydro.

Question: I've seen slides about 20 years ago around where you dog leg to where your powerhouse will be. Stability is obviously in issue. How big will your pipe be?

About 2 - 2.5m diameter. Pipe in most run of the river projects are buried for stability and esthetics. Next to the road or even if it was under the road you wouldn't see anything.

Question: Couldn't you bury it under the transmission line right of way?

Intuitively, it sounds like a good idea – but I don't know the answer to that.

Question: If you bury the pipe and WFP wants to go up to the right to get some timber will it be deep enough to support a logging truck to drive across it?

We design them to withstand that weight. We've run them under roads before.

Question: What is the width of the area that you need for the pipe?

Fourteen or fifteen metres to build it.

Question: How would forest activity be facilitated during the construction?

There would be an interruption if it was built right under the existing main line road, but I have a feeling WFP would not want it built there. We haven't spoken to WFP about what they think because we are still collecting data.

Comment: You should be talking to WFP before you start the project. That was the problem with the Montrose project. A lot of the times there was no discussion with them. In the very beginning they didn't know where your transmission lines were going to go because there wasn't a map, you hadn't finished it off, particularly down around the Eldred. They needed to know where the crossings were going to be because they had to log if there was going to be crossings. They would never be able to get back in and get those trees out.

We spent a lot of time with Walt Cowland and others, showing them conceptually aerial surveys showing a one kilometre wide swath that we think the corridor will lay within. The Regional District got upset because we asked for an investigative use permit for the one kilometre wide area going up to Bute. The Regional District passed a motion saying that they didn't support it. We think they should support it because we need to start with something and then narrow it down otherwise we don't know exactly where it will be. The Regional District wanted us to tell them where it was going to be before we did our work. We can't tell where it is going to be until we can get down on the ground because you can't see all of the site specific conditions on a topographic map.

Question: Could you tell us where the proposed transmission might go from the proposed Freda powerhouse?

Donald said it would go from the yellow building on the map to the green line depicting the Toba/Montrose corridor on the map.

Question: We were told by Grig Cook that that line was already fully subscribed with the Toba projects so how would you be able to carry the Freda power on a line that is already full?

Grig may have been anticipating what the possible size of the other Toba valley projects might be when he said that, but at this point the other Toba valley projects aren't fully conceived of, so he was maybe being conservative in his estimate. At this point, we think, it will connect into the light green line and would not require its own transmission line.

Comment: In the 2005 preliminary referral that we have it says something quite different.

Fair enough. Three years ago that is probably what we thought.

Comment: This is the only information we have.

I appreciate that, but we haven't done enough work to come up with what the project design should look like to change what the initial concept was that was

described in our initial report. This is still a work in progress and you might feel better about this, but the engineers in three weeks could say that the 2005 document is correct. So, we haven't gone to the public yet, because we still don't understand what it is we want to talk about. We are accommodating this meeting to share with you as much as we can, but I am trying to stress that we don't know what it is yet and that is why we haven't been having public meetings or sharing written information with you.

Question: Six months from now when you get all of your information back, might this trump some of the other projects in Toba?

We would look at the economics of all of them, as well as the type of electrical product. Freda has a better electrical product, but you also have to consider First Nations because this is in Sliammon traditional territory and possibly Sechelt. It also depends how stakeholder groups feel. We would make a decision based on all of these things.

Question: Would it make a difference how we feel?

It would be a factor.

Question: What is the cost difference between a 550 and a 230 line?

The only sizes of big transmission lines that I am only aware of are 500, 360, 287, 230, and 137.

Question: If you are running from Toba down could you go to a 360?

At this point, no. Because it would mean starting the whole permitting process from Toba over. At this point the project is fully financed, it has its environmental assessments on the location, we have a contract with the utility to deliver and sell the electricity by a certain date and if we were to reopen the permitted process for that project today the whole thing would probably collapse including the economics.

Comment: One of our main concerns is the possibility of twinning of the first transmission line. As you know the line runs right through the middle of the TFL and a line cannot be twinned parallel. If it is twinned it is going to leave a much bigger footprint in the TFL and there is no consideration of going to a bigger line.

It has been considered. It just can't be changed now.

Comment: We would feel a lot better if it was only ever going to be one line.

For everything that is conceived in the Sunshine Coast from here up to Knight inlet, we will need another line, but it may go to Campbell River and there may not be any more projects. If there is no contract with the utility, if we can't get

permits to build, if we can't get all of the First Nations approval, if the economics don't work, and the public at large doesn't want it, it won't go through. We can't make everyone happy, but we will listen to everybody.

Comment: I'm concerned about the diversion of the creek, and the riparian area.

We are only diverting some of the water from the creek.

Question: How much of the tributary will you be diverting?

It would depend on the same regulations that are used to decide how much of Freda itself we can divert.

Comment: I'm still concerned about all of the frogs and salamanders and other creatures.

Elisha said that is part of the study being done right now. There is field activity where they are examining the habitat and are counting the instances of when and where those species are appearing. If the project goes forward, they will be making sure that the habitat existing for those species is addressed.

Question: Including the plants? There are some rare plants around.

Yes. An inventory of plants is being taken, too.

Comment: Another concern we have is about the other groups such as Hawkeye that are laying claim on claim as we understand. We don't know where they are coming from or where they are going. We understand that the road up at Toba is going to be private and have a gate.

There is no road to privatize or make public. We are building a new road. There was a road there until 1984 but it has not been maintained. It completely grew over, the bridges fell apart, and it was impassable. We have a license from the government to reestablish a road in the Toba valley, we have an agreement with the Klahoose nation whose reserve straddles the whole front of the Toba valley and without whose permission we would not be able to access anything in the Toba valley including building a road through the reserve. Ultimately, and this has not been determined between governments, over who will be allowed to use the road or not use the road. At this point it will be a privately owned road, because it is not like a logging road, where a logging company gets paid to build a road by reduced stumpage which is funded by the public purse. The Toba valley road and all the bridges and infrastructure are being built by PPC through a tenure with the government that will allow that to exist. Ultimate use of that road by other stakeholders is yet to be worked out. Nothing is cast in stone about gates or no gates. While construction is going on in the Toba valley there will be controlled access because of the industrial nature of the work. If someone is interested in access and the Klahoose nation is okay with their access we would be able to organize a plan for their entry. Access has yet to be decided and the Klahoose nation will be intimately involved in that decision.

Question: You said there wasn't any public money involved in your road. My understanding was that you got timber off of the powerline in the Toba valley, and that you got it appraised.

Yes.

Question: Did you get a reduced stumpage because you were building a road and bridges in the Toba valley?

Yes.

Comment: So there is public money in the construction of that road.

Donald said that he didn't understand that.

Comment: You could recover all of your road building costs if you had enough timber. It is the same agreement as the forest companies has.

I beg your pardon. I wasn't aware of that. Have you seen what we've cut? I don't think it would pay for much.

Transmission

If we do the Bute project we will need another transmission line to get the electricity to somewhere. Is that going to go to Saltery Bay or Vancouver Island? I have no idea.

Question: Are you going to go to the Apple River if you go through Campbell River?

The Regional District has done a good job of relaying the message that people are not interested in seeing a spider web of transmission lines all over the hinterland. If there is an ability to build infrastructure for our own project that then gets used by other developers in a way that doesn't impair our ability to operate and it makes reasonable sense we will be very happy to comply, but we cannot finance a line 50% bigger than we need because somebody might show up later. We are open to talking to other developers if they can help with the finance and work together. We have spoken to the government about paying what we would need for a line and having them pay the rest to make it a bigger line to accommodate other companies future plans. The discussion is very preliminary. The utilities are looking at the best ways to get power to Vancouver Island. They are looking at environmental impact, electrical considerations, First Nations and local community, and cost considerations.

Question: How many definitions of twinning are there in your business?

There is an underbuild, which is one set of lines built under another set of transmission lines on the same poles and there is side-by-side.

Question: Would you be able to consider an underbuild if the Bute project goes through?

As I understand we would not be able to do this as we are using the tallest poles we can and we would have room to add a set of lines and allow room for crossings.

Question: We are still extremely concerned about safe line heights for crossing. We still don't know where your crossings are going to be and WorkSafe requires 50 feet clearance at the crossings. Meeting the CSA standards as your designs are now will make the crossings a metre too low. We either need Worksafe to change to CSA's lesser standard or we need you to build your line with 50 feet clearance.

Toba/Montrose is being built on a design build basis, so we don't know where it is actually crossing yet. We are waiting on the same information and have had to hold up ordering our poles.

Question: We would like to know where the pinch points are. Are they all pinch points or just a couple of them?

We are aware of your problems with the difference between WorkSafe and CSA. Which height do you prefer?

Comment: I have to say Worksafe because it is a higher standard, but if WorkSafe changes its standard to the same as CSA I'd be okay with that.

Question: Are you limited by the poles you can get?

Design has inputs from lots of sources and also the poles are all connected by the wires so if you change the height of one pole then you have to change the height of others.

Question: Are you limited because there aren't many 80 foot poles?

There is a cost issue. We can use steel poles.

Thank you for reminding us that this is an unresolved issue.

Question: Are you sourcing your poles locally?

I have no idea.

Comment: They probably come from the area, but are shipped out to be made.

Comment: At one of the very first meetings PPC touted this project by saying there would be an economic boom in Powell River because the poles would come from Powell River.

We said that an innovative individual could take advantage of our need for 4,000 poles. Unfortunately, the environmental permit process to start a pole treatment plant is unbelievable and nobody in the community wanted to do it.

Question: I would like to ask you some questions about the amendments to the license of operation for the transmission line right of way? I am aware that there have been several amendments made, some of which are a fair size up around the Eldred. The one that really comes to mind is a fairly large amendment. It is on the top of Lois Lake where we had all of the concerns regarding visuals because of the canoe route. Your amendments make it much wider and higher up the hill which will cause more problems with isolating timber and more problems with visuals from the canoe route.

We have changed some of locations specifically within our original routing to deal with avalanche problems and other things. I don't know about this specific spot. Mac or Keith can you talk to this?

Keith said the ILMB agreed to a work permit which is more than 200 or 300 m wide to accommodate any shifts we might need to make in the alignment. We put in an amendment early this year when we thought the line was going to be moved to the other side of Goat Lake. The amendment made the work permit area big so they could decide where to put the line. I was the one that chose to do this and in retrospect it wasn't a good idea because it went outside of our study area boundary for our environmental assessment certificate, which since then we have trimmed down to what it was before. The line is going to stay where it was originally planned.

Question: At the one above Lois Lake you've already cut all of the trees down and now you have to go further up the hill.

I'm not aware of that amendment.

ACTION: Keith to send notes and explanations regarding all three or four of the amendments for the transmission line to CAG.

OGMA Intrusion and Replacement

Comment: I've been talking to ILMB about the OGMA that have been intruded upon and I've asking where the replacement will be. What I found out is that because the transmission line right of way takes land out of the forested crown land the OGMA will not be replaced. The reason for this is OGMA are a percentage of total forested crown land and as the forested crown land is decreased the requirement for OGMA is decreased. So not only are we being affected by the loss of timber, but also we will have less protected old growth forest. I wanted you to know that this is a real concern to me. You went through five OGMA below Khartoum Lake on your transmission line and they will not be replaced.

How much area are we talking about? Have we taken away 5 hectares or 5,000 hectares – I understand the principle, but I just wonder what the quantity is.

Comment: I'm not sure, but it is going to play out over and over.

Comment: We would like you to get the map out and when you are drawing your powerline stop when you get to an OGMA and think real hard before you plan to go through it.

Comment: If you take three old growth trees it is too many. OGMA have the sanctity of parks and are deemed wildlife habitat areas for grizzly bears, mountain goat winter range, and marbled murlat.

We did look at these maps and to your group to have input when we designed our route.

Comment: No.

Not in the beginning, but there was public consultation and we made changes based on that input.

There was eighteen difference authorities involved in the permitting process and is supposed to be 180 days long – it took 500. Most of the issues from this project evolved around building a road into the Toba valley and had nothing to do with the generation of power. We have many studies. Our application was 700 pages long. Most of the studies had to do with getting into the valley. Very few had to do with generation because the process is incredibly innocuous and the impact from the plants themselves are very minimal. How this goes is, and I don't know if CAG was specifically involved in this part although you were welcome to do so, for the Upper Toba projects for example we recently registered those with the environmental assessments office because they had seen 50 megawatts of possible generation capacity. EAO issues what is called a section 10 order. This just happened for the Bute projects as well. Section 10 says that the proponent will never do anything on this project unless an environmental assessment certificate is issued. If that were to happen, then you have to go out and get a whole bunch of other permits, licenses, and authorizations, and in the case of the East Toba Inlet/Montrose Creek project there was 52 different permits, authorizations, and licenses we had to get after we had the environmental assessment certificate before we could commence construction. In the case of the environmental assessment office level projects, which is 50 megawatts or greater, once you're bound to the process the next thing the proponent does is drafts Terms of Reference. This is a document that we draft that is circulated to all of the other government agencies that will be involved. This document says here are all of the things that we are going to do to prepare for, and all of the information that will be included in, our ultimate application to build. In the case of East Toba River and Montrose Creek it took 18 months to go through the Term of Reference process, and then collect all of the data subsequent to everybody agreeing upon it. The best thing for the proponent is that you get pre-agreement about what studies you are actually going to do. So,

when you actually make your application the process is designed so that somebody can't say we want you to go do grizzly bear studies for four years before you make your application. It is supposed to give the proponent some certainty that they know what they have to do to support their application to build. There is also a requirement to hold three public meetings at a certain point including a 45 day comment period for the public to look at the application and comment on it. That is the process for over 50 megawatts. For under 50 megawatt projects, which would include Freda Creek, the process is exactly the same except the environmental assessment office itself is not involved. The role of the environmental assessment office is to allow the proponent one point of contact with the government. For an under 50 megawatt project it is left to the proponent to talk to all of the exact same bodies of governments on our own directly. That is the difference. There is no less process. A lot of people accuse government of not having enough of a permitting process around smaller projects, but all of the same kinds of studies have to be done and all of the exact same government bodies are involved.

Comment: The only thing is it makes it much more difficult for us to find all of the threads because we don't have one single contact.

Neither do we. If the Freda project goes ahead, I will give you my commitment that we will communicate with your group and share whatever the studies are.

ACTION: Donald to communicate and share studies with CAG group should Freda project go ahead.

Comment: One of our questions on the agenda is will you share all of your environmental reports with us?

All of the information that is public is on the web. I'm not going to share anything with you on Freda until we know what we've got because in advance of that we don't know where we are going to go. I'm not going to share documents that may cause you to think about the project in one manner when the project may ultimately be something very different.

Comment: One of our problems with PPC from my perspective is that from day one we've been getting inconsistent messages. Details varied depending on which Plutonic employee you were talking to. All in meetings such as this.

Thank you for telling me that. If we have not done a good job of being consistent I understand why people in the community might be anxious and we will endeavor to do a better job in the future. I am even more glad now that we haven't given you a package of information as we have not yet finalized what this might be.

Roads

Comment: There has been some concern over the length and size of culverts and we have another concern regarding spur roads. If you look at the SFMP criteria,

one of them is to do with protecting and rehabbing soil. I would like to know about your plans on rehabbing roads and if you have solved the problem with silting in your ditches.

The second part of your question sounds site specific.

Comment: Yes.

I can't speak to individual sites, and I can't speak for our contractor, but I can tell you what our environmental assessment compels us to do, which is generally speaking to operate and build roads the way the forestry companies have to. In the Toba valley we have these screens that are supposed to contain silt. As soon as it rains everything is silty. We are being asked to do things that no logging company has been asked to do or ever will be. We feel like we are being singled out and forced to operate at higher standards than the logging companies.

Comment: I understand that there are new standards out there that everyone will have to live with.

Comment: Martin said that everyone will have to comply to these standards.

I doubt that. Everyone in the industry is outwardly laughing at us about how much money we are spending on roads to mitigate the impact on the environment compared to what the forestry industry has to spend. That is just what the logging industry people say.

Comment: I can attest to that. Our company is working for Kiewit. It is bizarre. We are hand picking debris out of ditches. If the logging industry is held to the same standards, we might as well shut the doors tomorrow. These standards are bizarre.

Thank you for saying that.

Comment: What we are asking is what are you doing with the little spur roads to access the line.

Keith said that most of those will be temporary and will be decommissioned when we are done.

Question: And you will rehab the soil?

We will decommission them.

Comment: There is decommission and there is rehab.

Rehab is for a road that is existing. We would go and put culverts back in.

Comment: Rehab could also mean building a road and then going back in and ripping up the road and attempting to return it back to wild forest.

That would be called decommissioning. Any temporary roads would be decommissioned and returned to their original state.

Donald said that he thinks that decommission and rehab means different things to CAG than to PPC.

ACTION: PPC will find out what will happen to these roads.

Comment: We have been asking for the numbers of Powell River people are working on this project.

At this point our work force fluctuates between 110 and 140 people total

Question: From Powell River.

Approximately 60 people. When we get the camp built for our second working front our workforce will increase substantially. We have directed Kiewit to hire Powell River people first whenever possible.

Comment: After it is all in and done will there be anyone working?

The bulk of the employment opportunities occur during the building of the project. We will have one or two people living at the facility to take care of it. If Toba phase II, if Bute Inlet, if Knight Inlet happens PPC could be building things for over a decade in this area. Hopefully, the skill sets people will develop in the program we set up with the school board and in Kiewit's other programs, will give them the two years training for things such as heavy duty mechanic and eight years employment. One of the things that I feel most proud of is the legacy we can leave behind by giving these young people the opportunity to get into the workforce with a useful skill.

Comment: My son tried to apply, but he found it really tough to get through. Who should he have talked to? Kiewit? Plutonic?

Plutonic does not employ people directly.

Question: So you go through Kiewit? Do they have a website? A phone number?

I would be happy to send on a resume.

Comment: No he moved on.

Comment: Their office is at Andy Burns old dry sort up on Dixon Road.

Elisha said they also have a website toba.montrose@kiewit.com

Comment: I think that is were he sent it.

You can also give them to us and we will forward them on.

Donald pointed out that there are also subcontractors that he could go to look for work.

Comment: He's a local kid and he's a heavy duty mechanic. He was just looking for a local opportunity and he didn't even get a response.

We will follow up with Kiewit and suggest that maybe they should give a response.

Donald asked what the adequacy of culvert item was referring to.

Comment: We just heard that some of the culverts were too small.

I don't know the specifics, but I can tell you that at our expense there is a full time environmental monitor on site in the Toba valley. He reports to the Minister of Environment as to adequacy and efficacy of all infrastructure.

Question: How can we access those reports?

Elisha said that most of them are on the website. We are a bit behind in getting them from the monitor. There are some FOI issues with it given the contactor's name is all over the contents, but I may be able to remove that. They are all there up until December.

ACTION: Elisha to look into making more reports available.

Donald asked if it was adequate that the monitor tells Kiewit to fix it if it isn't right.

Comment: I think what you are talking about is last year when they first started, they used six metres of culverts and in a perfect world six metres of culverts would be alright, because the road only has to be four metres wide, but if you get on an angle it ends up wider. I think they have now gone to eight or nine metre in length culverts with a minimum of 24 inch diameter instead of 14 inch.

Donald said that the other thing that Kiewit has had to deal with which is really frustrating is there are only three or four officers for the DFO in this province on project review. The second DFO officer we had said that all of our culverts would be open bottom and you will use hay for silt containment for road drainage. So, Kiewit orders something like one million dollars worth of open culverts. That guy gets shipped out and the next guy comes in and says we don't like hay, we like screening and I hate open bottom culverts. Meanwhile, Kiewit has all of the open bottom culverts sitting up in the Toba valley. There is an incredibly inconsistent application of the rules and regulations of the regulatory agencies and we are doing the best we can.

Lack of System to Inform the Public of Closures

Comment: We had a meeting with Grig in August. We were having a problem with road closures and Grig promised to at least investigate, but we got the impression that PPC would set up some kind of system in Powell River to notify the public when roads would be closed.

Has Kiewit been closing the roads?

Comment: You were last fall. WFP has a hotline where road closures are announced. We suggested to Grig that that would be a good thing. EAO requires that you accommodate this kind of thing and it hasn't been done. When you start stringing wires I suspect there will be more road closures. It is a matter of safety.

Comment: It is important for tourism also. I own a bed and breakfast and it is frustrating when you are unable to access something that says whether or not the roads are all clear.

Keith said we will not be closing roads for the foreseeable future. Any time we have a short road closure we will have flaggers present like you would on a highway. There might be a slight delay. I do have Kiewit's office phone number here and they have said that if there are any concerns to double check at that number.

Donald said I think that these guys are saying that the hotline is well known and there wouldn't be any harm in putting a message on that line although I can't see why it would ever have anything on it other than no road closures.

Comment: We are also talking about ATV roads which are secondary roads.

I get your point.

Grizzly Bear Encounters and Management

You may be unaware, but we had to file a number of management plans with government. Nobody is allowed to leave their lunch garbage on site, everything gets incinerated, there is a protocol to inform the conservation officer if a nuisance bear starts hanging around. I think Kiewit only has one gun in all of the Toba valley. There is no hunting and fishing allowed.

Elisha said that there are incentives for employees to identify and inform the conservation officer about different species that they encounter and they are tracking them.

Helicopter Flights and Goat Winter Range

Helicopter companies have a defined protocol about what to do anywhere near goat habitat.

Mac said that the basic rules are during goat season, October to May, there should be no helicopter activity within 500 metres of goat winter range.

Comment: I've seen the little red bubble flying around Humphrey and Foster Creeks.

Donald said that it may not be PPC. There is active logging at the end of Toba Inlet that has nothing to do with Plutonic Power.

Comment: If the helicopter companies have a protocol they are not following them.

ACTION: Elisha to look into helicopters flying in the Humphrey and Foster Creek areas.

Donald said they are not trying to avoid difficult question and issues. They respect that their company's ability to get a permit to build, to an extent lies in their ability to have good relations and he knows that they won't be able to make everyone in the community happy every day, but he hopes that at the end of the day the overall project can be done in a way that is reasonably received by most of the community members and that we can ensure that the people that work for PPC directly or through subcontractors carry the vision that we build the project in a way the mitigates impacts, the uses a local workforce and if we do all that we will have a great legacy here. I you know of things that we are missing or if our contractors or subcontractors aren't doing a good job of what we've told you, if you hear inconsistent messages coming from our company or representatives call me of Elisha.

Comment: I hope everyone here doesn't think that there is going to be zero impact on the resource or interest that they specifically have. In multiple resource management everyone coming to the table will have a specific interest, whether it be newts and salamanders or electrical power generation. You can't step into an environment without leaving some sort of imprint, so there will be some impact on newts and salamanders and fresh water fish. What we have to do as a group is come to a level of impact that we can all live with. We are not going to all go out of here with everything that we wanted when we came in, but we should be able to leave with satisfaction that our resource and interest has been addressed to the degree of importance with which it is held in the community at large. I think we would be fooling ourselves if we think Plutonic Power isn't going to be affected to some degree by the community's interest. And the community can't be foolish enough to think that their interest, whether it be ATV access or habitat for all newts, won't be affected, because there will be an impact. We have to come to an agreement as to what degree is acceptable.

Next CAG meeting – May 14th, 2008 with WFP

Meeting Adjourned 9:00 pm

**Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group
Plutonic Power
April 23rd, 2008
Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Local Business
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Ken Jackson	Primary	Recreation
Barry Miller	Primary	Environment
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Governments
Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Nancy Hollmann	Alternate	Tourism
Dave Rees	Primary	Tourism
Dave Hodgins	Alternate	Recreation
Mark Hassett	Primary	Local Business
8 Seats represented		
ABSENT MEMBERS		
George Illes	Alternate	Environment
Wayne Borgfjord	Primary	Forest Dependent
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Ted Byng	Alternate	Local Governments
Kathy Kirk	Alternate	Member at Large
Ron Fuller	Alternate	DFA Worker
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Donald McIness	PPC	
Mac Bell	PPC	
Keith Ainsley	PPC	
Elisha Moreno	PPC	
Martin Buchanan	WFP	
Valerie Thompson	Secretary/Facilitator	